

## UIRA Board of Directors Meeting

March 10, 2020

**Attending:** Emil Rinderspacher, Sue Otto, Kris Canfield, Sam Cochran, Richard Saunders, Benny Hawkins, Diana Harris, Lois Lembke, Billie Townsend, Chuck Dayton, Mike Barron, Diane Martin

**Call to order – Emil Rinderspacher, President**

### Reports from Officers

**Secretary – Diane Martin**

Minutes from the February meeting were reviewed. As a planned article for the March Gray Hawk did not appear, that notice was deleted from the minutes. Benny moved and Lois seconded the motion that the minutes be approved as amended.

**Treasurer – Kris Canfield**

The reserve fund figures reported were:

\$9,879.00	Vanguard GNMA 2.20%
\$3,435.56	Vanguard Short-Term Investment
\$13,314.56	Total Reserve Funds

**President Elect – Sam Cochran**

The Feb. 24 program Aging Successfully Through the Use of Technology was drew 60 participants.

Due to the corona virus, the Board discussed advisability of cancelling the Climate Change Update program scheduled for March 11 as well as all April programs. This would include the Bur Oak Land Trust program and the April 15 Annual Meeting and Luncheon. After discussion, Lois moved and Billie seconded that March and April programming be cancelled. The motion was approved unanimously. An electronic message will be sent out about the cancellations and Phil Klein will be asked to post notification on the UIRA website.

**President – Emil Rinderspacher**

In order to raise money for the scholarships, UIRA will participate in the One Day at Iowa effort being planned by the Center for Advancement.

### Reports from Committees

**Newsletter – Diana Harris**

The April newsletter will contain notice of the increase in UIRA dues and a request for suggestions/nominations for officers for the UIRA Board.

The May newsletter will include a reminder that if membership expires, the member will receive an email reminder.

## **Membership – Lois Lembke**

Current UIRA membership is 619 representing 430 households. Three hundred fifty seven members will need to renew this year at the new fees.

## **Funded Retirement and Insurance Committee (FRIC) – Richard Saunders**

Approximately 250-300 faculty/staff retire from the University each year.

## **Big Ten Meeting – Mike Barron**

The meeting will take place August 3-5 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Iowa City. The program for the meeting is complete. The program will highlight places and people that are special about the University campus and Iowa City community. Attendance will be 30-35. The planning committee is asking the University and local financial institutions for monetary support for the meeting as typical registration fees won't cover expenses.

The planning committee for this meeting includes Mike Barron, Sue Otto, Kathy Holeyton, Nancy Williams, Mary New, Sam Cochran and Penny Hall.

## **Old Business**

### **A Way Forward: What's Next for UIRA – Emil Rinderspacher**

Emil expressed concern about the lack of acceptance of candidates for officer positions on the UIRA Board. Sue and a committee have asked many people, but none have agreed to be nominated.

Emil pointed out that UIRA is 25 years old. When it was founded, there weren't many programs or services for retired people in the Iowa City area. That has changed. UIRA membership numbers are still strong, but the possible lack of leadership for the organization is cause for concern.

An ongoing concern is the lack of a formal agreement between the University and UIRA. UIRA struggles to get the cooperation needed from Human Resources to obtain names and information needed to contact new retirees. At some other Big 10 Universities, every retiree is automatically a member of the retiree's association and there is a University staffer that works with the organization.

Due to these concerns, Emil called a meeting of past and future presidents of the UIRA Board. Attendance included Nancy Williams, Mike Barron, Sam Cochran and Emil. They met and the focus of the meeting was how to approach the University to ask that they, in some way, sponsor or partner with UIRA.

The conclusion is that Mike Barron will chair a task force of presidents that will include Emil, Sue Otto, Sam Cochran, Nancy Hauserman, Nancy Williams and Beverly Roballino. Mike will approach the Center for Advancement or Rod Lehenertz to explore this question of partnership. If they agree, this group will work with the U to work out the conditions of agreement. If they say "no", this group will work to determine what's next for UIRA.

In the meantime, Sue Otto will continue to work to recruit Board leadership.

The Board discussed the difficulty with current practice of having the President-Elect be responsible for UIRA programs. Having such a big responsibility immediately doesn't give that person time to learn

about the Board before plunging into lining up programs for each month of the year. The discussion concluded that forming a Standing Program Committee with a chair (not the President-Elect) should be considered.

### **New Business**

#### **Cancellation of April Luncheon/Business Meeting**

The Board discussed the difficulty raised by cancelling the April Business Meeting. Lois moved and Billie seconded a motion to hold the Business Meeting at the June picnic. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned. The April meeting may be held electronically due to concerns about the corona virus.